Sale of Coconuts by NAFED

*479. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NAFED has envisaged a scheme to market coconuts through its own sales depots in metropolitan cities including Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented; and

(d) the number of sale depots to be opened in each city?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLION): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not airse.

Magnetic Levitation system for Delhi

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

*480. SHRI N. E BALARAM:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a whether it is a fact that the BHEL has recently written to the Ministry of Urban Development in connection with the adoption of the magnetic levitation system of transit known as Magnets Bahn, in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what is the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) and (b) The Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd wrote on 26th September, 1986 to the Study Group on Urban Transportation set up by the Ministry of Railways regarding the introduction of M-Bahn system in Delhi on a pilot basis. A decision on the introduction of a mass rapid system in Delhi will be taken only after considering the various modal options.

Appointing High Level Committee of Scientists to probe into the destruction of Forests by BALCO

@3253. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have received a request from the Orissa Government to appoint a high level comimttee of scientists to probe into the possible ecological social and economical hazards in and around Gandhamardan Reserve Forest in Sambalpur District by mining activities of BALCO; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) on 5-9-1986, the Government of India appointed a high level committee of experts headed by Dr. B. D. Nag Chaudhury, former Vice Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University to study in depth the impact of the proposed development of the Gandhamardan Bauxite Project in Orissa on ecology and environment including the water falls, streams, medicinal herbs, plants, temples and tribals.

@Previously Unstarred Question 2272 transferred from the 27th November, 1986.